

Prior law created the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District and authorized a board of commissioners to exercise certain powers to control it.

New law provides that the board of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District shall serve without compensation.

New law retains prior law and authorizes a reasonable travel allowance for board members, not to exceed the mileage reimbursement rate used by the Louisiana Legislature.

New law also authorizes the reimbursement of board members' expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.

New law increases the authority of the board to allow it to acquire, construct, control, and alienate industrial parks and facilities, including necessary improvements and services such as roads, drainage, sewerage and garbage disposal, and water.

New law increases the authority of the board to allow it to levy a tax of seven mills or less on all property in the district if it is approved in an election.

New law increases the authority of the board to allow it to issue obligations to fund any authorized public function, including transportation, parking services, community centers, utility services, pollution control equipment, airports, waterports, and similar matters.

New law increases the authority of the board to allow it to enter into cooperative endeavors with other entities for economic development, including cooperative financing.

New law increases the authority of the board to allow it to apply for and receive grants and loans, obtain insurance, sponsor studies, collect and disseminate financial and technical information, and receive or lend seed capital to exercise its powers associated with cooperative endeavors.

Prior law authorized the board to purchase and expropriate land for district purposes.

New law increases the authority of the board to allow it to lease any of its lands to others to promote the industrial and commercial development of the district.

Prior law required the board to advertise for bids for work that would have cost more than \$5,000 in a newspaper published in the city of Morgan City.

New law increases the limit for the cost of work that does not have to be bid from \$5,000 to the maximum allowed by state law and requires that the advertisement for bids be published in the official journal of the commission.

New law provides an exception to the requirement for bid advertisement in the case of an extreme public emergency, which includes an unforeseen force that brings destruction of life or property, or construction work undertaken to comply with a court order.

New law increases the board's taxing and bonding authority in accordance with the expansion of the board's authority provided by the new law.

New law increases the authority of the board to allow it to issue industrial

inducement revenue bonds, industrial inducement general obligation bonds, general obligation bonds to acquire necessary property or appurtenances for industrial parks, and negotiable bonds payable by the district's revenue generating facilities or secured by a conventional mortgage.

Effective August 15, 1999.

(Amends R.S. 34:322, 323, 324, 326, 328, and 330; Adds R.S. 34:323.1)